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August 30, 2006

The Honorable Tom Coburn, M.D.
United States Senate
172 Russell Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20510

Advanced By Fax: (202) 228-3796

Re: The University of Arizona – Federal Appropriations

Dear Senator Coburn:

I am responding to your letter inquiry of July 26, 2006, regarding federal appropriations received by The University of Arizona in which you ask for, among other data, a list of appropriations, summaries of specific objectives, accomplishments and metrics for each. We have done our best to provide you what data we have been able to gather in the short time window you have requested, which is particularly challenging in the July-August summer academic recess. However, having recently assumed the presidency of The University of Arizona, your inquiry comes at a time when I am reviewing our University policy regarding earmarks and I am pleased to share my initial considerations with you.

I am proud of the UA's sterling record of pursuing world-class research, including the medical research you referenced in your letter. UA researchers have a strong history of success with competitive research grant awards. In our most recent year of data (July 2004-June 2005), UA researchers have been awarded nearly $260M in competitively awarded federal research funding. Set against this, earmarked federal funds to the UA in the last 7 years have not exceeded $20M in any given year, translating into 7% or less annually. However, another way of looking at this may be in the *averages*: Congressionally directed funding was provided to an average of just more than 6 projects a year for this time period for an *average* annual total funding of just less than $10M annually (FY2000-2006).

I have been considering a University policy toward appropriations earmarks. While final implementation of such a policy will need to spring from an iterative process of consultations between me and the University community, I can give you some indication of my beliefs. I am guided by the following principles:

(1) The pursuit of science is best served by a truly competitive federal research grants program. Federal funding should go to those who can demonstrably deliver the best science.

(2) Congressionally directed funding (or earmarking) can be effective in furthering scientific research for initiatives for which there is no apparent "fit" within an existing grant program. Given the extensive nature of the existing federal grant programs, there should be a limited number of such initiatives.

In response to your request for a listing of federal appropriations the UA has received, I have provided as an appendix as complete as possible listing congressionally directed funding (or earmarks) for FY2000-2006, with a brief indication of the results of the funding. In response to your question regarding hiring a lobbyist, we have hired a firm to assist us in identifying federal funding opportunities, as well as with representing University interests in Washington generally. Finally, you asked whether congressionally directed funds have contributed in a substantive way to our institution. While the UA has received only a moderate amount of such funds (especially when compared to our overall operations and competitively awarded funding), my initial review has led me to believe that congressionally directed funding has contributed in specific and substantive ways to our academic institution.

I hope this information is useful to you in your inquiry. I share your interest in the subject as I will continue to work with The University of Arizona community to define a policy on this matter.

Sincerely,

Robert N. Shelton
President

RNS/ss
Enclosure

	PROGRAMS	($ (000's)	RESULTS
1	**Border Health Initiative**	2000 - $1,200 2001,- $1,700 2002 - $440	* Developed programs for patient, provider, family, community, school and public policy. * Model was adapted for use in both Cochise County and on the Tohono O'odham Nation. * The Border Health Strategic Initiative model was incorporated into the Zucker
2	**Bridge of Knowledge**	2005 - $500 2006 - $3,500	* The Bridge of Knowledge is to serve as a pedestrian bridge that will span Interstate 10 and the Santa Cruz River and house the UA Science Center. The bridge is currently in the planning phase.
3	**Center for Adaptic Optics**	2000 - $3,800 2001 - $3,500 2002 - $200 2003 - $200 2004 - $100	* Developed and implemented a number of uniquely powerful techniques for overcoming the blurring effects of atmospheric turbulence. * The CAAO has pioneered techniques of atmospheric laser tomography which are key to ground layer correction. * The CAA
4	**Environmental and Natural**	2005 - $750 2006 - $1,000	* The Environmental and Natural Resources Phase II is an addition to the original ENR building. This will house additional office space and labs. The project is in the design stage.
5	**Hesperaloe Research**	2000 - $200 2001 - $200 2002 - $231 2003 - $350 2004 - $313 2005 - $350	* To develop and market an ultra-light-weight coated (ULWC) paper using Hesperaloe fibers and post-consumer waste * To develop potential niche market to producers of catalogs, newsletters, and magazines
6	**Indigenous People Law and Policy Project**	2005 - $1,200	* Created Center for the study of indigenous peoples' cultures, histories, languages, laws, and human rights. * Hands-on approach to education – this program aims to promote a deeper, critical, and global understanding of the challenges indigenous peop
7	**Inst. For Advanced Telemedicine and Telehealth**	2005 - $1,000	* A program to address the shortages in the availability of health care professionals in Arizona, in the US Military Healthcare System, and throughout the United State. * This program is already recognized as a national and international leader in its
8	**Institute for Biomedical Science And Biotechnology**	2001 - $2,000 2002 - $1,500 2003 - $2,700 2004 - $750	* Funds contributed to the planning, design and development of the Bioresearch Building. * 177,000 square feet of research space, with open laboratory modules and common areas that foster interaction among 350 researchers from 13 colleges and 6 departme
9	**Integrative Medicine**	2002 - $500 2003 - $500 2004 - $200 2005 - $100	* Graduated 150 physicians from fellowships, many of whom hold international, national and local leadership roles. * Developed research methodology for integrative medicine using a complex systems approach * Developed and continue to offer extensive set of
10	**Intelligent Transportation Systems Research**	2000 - $1,000 2001 - $1,000 2002 - $500	* Developed RHODES, for Real-Time Hierarchical Optimized Distributed Effective Synchronization. * RHODES employs video cameras and radar detectors near the intersections to gather data on the volume and speed to improve real-time traffic and emergency r

11	Maricopa Agricultural Center	2000 - $1,400 2001 - $5,000 2002 - $8,400 2003 - $12,300
12	National Faculty Center	2003 - $300
13	National Network Security Testbed	2005 - $1,000
14	Native Nations Institute	2002 - $1,996 2005 - $1,996
15	U.S. Mexico Border Environmental Projection Program	2005 - $1,000
16	Valley Fever	2003 - $100

FY	$Received (000's)
2000	$7,600
2001	$13,400
2002	$15,067
2003	$18,250
2004	$2,263
2005	$7,896
2006	$4,500